



news and information
for employees of the
City of Saint Paul

March 18, 2005

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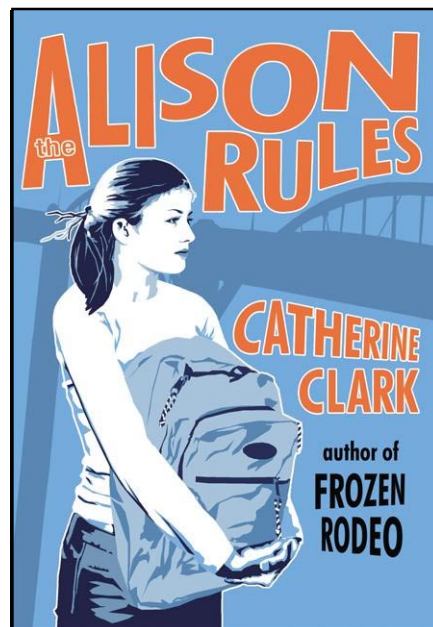
Saint Paul Celebrates Minnesota Books!

By Steve Nelson

Saint Paul Public Library

From children's picture books and young adult poetry to local history and moving memoirs, explore the wonders of Minnesota books with a series of events in Saint Paul from April 9 through April 16th. The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library and other community partners will sponsor ten Saint Paul events to celebrate the 17th Annual Minnesota Book Awards, a program of the Minnesota Humanities Commission. The events will feature Minnesota Book Award finalists, as well as past winners and other Minnesota authors. The Saint Paul events are free and open to the public.

The Saint Paul events kick off with a reading at the Red Balloon Bookshop on Saturday, April 9th at 2 p.m., featuring ten of the fourteen finalists for this year's Minnesota Book Awards in the children's categories. Other highlighted community events during the week include poet Katrina Vandenberg reading from her latest collection, *Atlas*, on Tuesday, April 12th at 7 p.m., at Micawber's Books. *Atlas* is finalist for the Minnesota Book Award. Also on Tuesday, April 12th at 7:30 p.m., local poets Joyce Sutphen and James Lenfestey will read from their new collections, *Naming the Stars* and *Saying Grace*, at Bound to Be Read bookstore.



Coffee House Press hosts readings by two of their award-winning writers, Alexis Pate and Julia Klatt Singer, on Wednesday, April 13th, 7 p.m., at The Black Dog Café. Alexis Pate's books include *Losing Absalom* (winner, Minnesota Book Award in Fiction, 1995), which is being re-issued in paperback this April. Julia Klatt Singer is one of the authors of *Twelve Branches: Stories from St. Paul*, a finalist for last year's Minnesota Book Award.

Throughout the week, The Friends will host various readings at Saint Paul Public Library branches.

The featured library event is a reading by finalists for the Poetry, Memoir and Fiction Awards, on Friday, April 15th, 7 p.m., in the

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Please print this for your co-workers. The City is continuing to save money by not producing printed copies of the City Update, but still needs to communicate to all employees. Please help by printing this newsletter (preferably back-to-back) for workers in your area who do not have computer access. Thank you.

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Places to go. Things to do.

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Fitzgerald Alcove in Central Library. The event is sponsored by Minnesota Literature newsletter and is an exciting chance to hear numerous Minnesota Book Award finalists, including Mary Sharratt, Evelina Chao, Ken McCullough, Jenna Blum and Sima Rabinowitz. A reception and signing will follow the reading.

Other library events during the week include a reading by members of the Laurel Poetry Collective on Monday, April 11th, 7 p.m., at the Merriam Park Branch; Larry Millett, Book Award finalist for *Strange Days*, *Dangerous Nights*, presenting on Tuesday, April 12th, 7 p.m., at the Riverview Branch; Catherine Clark participating in an informal book chat about her young adult novel and Award finalist, *The Alison Rules*, at noon on Thursday, April 14th, at Central Library; Book Award finalist William Kent Krueger reading from *Blood Hollow*, on Thursday, April 14th, 7 p.m., at the St. Anthony Park Branch; and Julie Schumacher reading from her young adult novel and Award finalist, *The Grass Angel*, on Saturday, April 16th at 2 p.m., in Central Library's children's room.

The week-long celebration culminates with the 17th Annual Minnesota Book Awards at 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 16th, at The Woman's Club of Minneapolis, 410 Oak Grove Street. Hosted by WCCO-TV's Don

Shelby, guest presenters will include Marion Dane Bauer, Debra Frasier, Judith Guest, Erin Hart, Pete Hautman, Bill Holm, Barbara Knutson, P.J. and Traci Lambrecht, Mary Logue, Alison McGhee, Larry Millett, and U.S. Senator Mark Dayton. A public reception will follow the ceremony. Tickets for the event are \$10 in advance, or \$15 at the door, and may be purchased at 651-209-6689 or www.minnesotahumanities.org. Also visit the Minnesota Humanities Commission's website for a full list of this year's finalists, as well as past winners dating back to 1988.

The 17th Annual Minnesota Book Awards is a program of the Minnesota Humanities Commission. The Saint Paul Celebrates Minnesota Books week is a project of The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library and the Saint Paul Public Library. Both activities are sponsored by the Pioneer Press, The Rake, Target, Barnes & Noble Booksellers, and SPNN-Saint Paul Neighborhood Network. Saint Paul Celebrates Minnesota Books week events are also supported by Minnesota Literature, Minnesota Historical Society Press, Coffee House Press, Micawber's Books, Milkweed Editions, Red Balloon Bookshop, Bound to be Read, Zelda Coffee, and The Black Dog Café. For more information on the Saint Paul events, contact The Friends at 651-222-3242 or visit www.thefriends.org.

Pre-retirement Planning Seminar set for April, May

If you're planning to retire in the next ten years, and you haven't attended one of the City's pre-retirement planning seminars, now is your chance!

The pre-retirement planning seminar is a long-range planning seminar designed to help you take practical steps now to enable you to spend your retirement years as you choose.

Information about Social Security, public pensions, legal readiness, estate planning, financial planning, deferred compensation, enrichment opportunities and employee benefits will be presented by experts in their fields.

The seminar is scheduled for three Wednesdays: May 4th, 11th and 18th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. All sessions will be held in Room 40 A and B of City Hall. We request you do not register unless you can attend all three sessions.

Register by e-mail or by phone: include department, phone number and your spouse's name if he/she will be attending. Send your e-mail to brenda.ullrich@ci.stpaul.mn.us or call Brenda at 651-266-6535. Registration is limited to the first 50 applicants. NOTE: You must use personal time to attend.

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Feel free to call us at 651-225-2700 with any questions on these or any of our services.

City & County Credit Union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.



Spring Flower Show At Marjorie McNeely Conservatory

Spring arrives at the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory's Sunken Garden where tulips, hyacinths, daffodils, lilies and pansies create a fragrant garden of beautiful blooms. The 2005 Spring Flower Show's color scheme of blue, purple, and yellow will showcase Tulip "Yellow Present" and "Purple Flag" and Lilies "Cordelia" and "Sunray." Enjoy spring with a visit to the Conservatory!

More than 12,000 bulbs are grown for this show.

The Marjorie McNeely Conservatory is open every day of the year, including Easter Sunday. Visitors may also enjoy the new Zobota Cafe located in the Visitor Center.

Winter hours through March 31st are 10:00a.m. to 4:00p.m. Summer hours beginning April 1st are 10:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.

Como Park Zoo and Conservatory visitors are invited to make a voluntary donation to help care for the plants and animals. The suggested donation is \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children. Everyone is welcome whether or not they make a donation.

For 24-hour recorded information, please call 651-487-8200.

St. Patrick's Day Association of Saint Paul Parade and Festivities



The St. Patrick's Day Association of Saint Paul



The Saint Paul Police Honor Guard



Deputy Mayor Dennis Flaherty, Parade Grand Marshal



Heather O'Keefe, Miss Shamrock



Chief John Harrington, Honorary Irish Person



Brian Boru Irish Pipe Band

City job openings as of March 18th, 2005

Application deadline	Job title	Bi-weekly or hourly salary rate	Exam date
03/23/05	Environmental Health Specialist II	\$1,658.55 bi-weekly	See Job Ann
03/28/05	Accounting Clerk I	\$1,025.21 bi-weekly	See Job Ann
03/30/05	Engineering Aide II	\$1,219.72 bi-weekly	See Job Ann
03/30/05	Safety Coordinator (Prom)	\$1,921.93 bi-weekly	See Job Ann
03/31/05	Assistant Gardener	\$13.76 per hr	See Job Ann
03/31/05	Plumber	\$29.18 per hr	See Job Ann
04/04/05	Coordinator of Administrative Support (Prom)	\$1,477.63 bi-weekly	See Job Ann
04/15/05	Parks Worker I (seasonal/temp)	\$7.75/\$8.42 per hr	See Job Ann
04/15/05	Emergency Communications Ctr Telecommunicator	\$1,465.62 bi-weekly	See Job Ann
04/29/05	Fire Protection Engineer	\$2,040.16 bi-weekly	See Job Ann

Note: Call or visit the Office of Human Resources to receive the official job announcement for these positions. Location: 400 City Hall Annex. Phone: (651) 266-6500 or visit the web site: www.ci.stpaul.mn.us/jobopenings. For jobs announced after March 15, 2005, please call our 24-hour job line, (651) 266-6502.